



Grades 4–6 Activity Guide

Railroads in the Local Community





Canadian Pacific #2317 arrives at Steamtown NHS with the “Scranton Limited” train ride.

About Steamtown National Historic Site

Steamtown National Historic Site was created in 1986 to further public understanding and appreciation of the role of steam railroading in the growth of America. Although the National Park Service has other units, such as Allegheny Portage and Golden Spike National Historic Sites, that tell stories about railroading history, Steamtown NHS is unique and nationally significant because it:

1. Preserves and protects both representative physical resources (structures, artifacts, locomotives, and rolling stock) and the living culture associated with the steam railroading era;
2. Offers visitors an opportunity to have a live steam experience in an operating railroad yard.

Pre-Visit Activity 1

Railroad Vocabulary

Name: _____

Match the vocabulary words from the word bank to the definitions below.

Vocabulary Word Bank

A. Anthracite Coal	B. Bituminous Coal	C. Conductor	D. DL&W RR
E. Diesel Locomotive	F. Engineer	G. Fireman	H. Freight
I. Handcar	J. News Butcher	K. Passenger	L. Porter
M. Roundhouse	N. Steam Locomotive	O. Turntable	

- _____ The goods carried by trains (food, lumber, computers, grain, autos, trucks, etc.).
- _____ A railroad engine that uses fuel to heat water and produce the steam power needed to move a train.
- _____ A person who pays a fare to ride on a train.
- _____ A circular or semicircular building where steam locomotives could be inspected, repaired or stored until their next assignment.
- _____ A manually powered vehicle used by track workers to inspect the track.
- _____ A peddler, usually a child, who earned money by selling newspapers, snacks, sandwiches, cigars, etc. to train passengers during the steam-locomotive era.
- _____ A person, originally a newly freed slave, who worked in Pullman cars handling baggage, making up sleeping quarters, and taking care of his passengers.
- _____ A type of coal ("soft" coal), providing heat with more smoke when burned; easier to mine.
- _____ A moving platform with a railroad track, used to move steam locomotives in and out of a roundhouse.
- _____ The person who worked to shovel coal into the firebox and to get water into the boiler of a steam locomotive.
- _____ The person in charge of the train and its movements.
- _____ The person who operates, or drives, a locomotive.
- _____ The Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad, a company established in Scranton, PA originally to haul iron; it also hauled coal and other products, and had passenger service.
- _____ A type of coal ("hard" coal), providing much heat and little smoke when burned; difficult to mine.
- _____ A railroad engine which uses fuel oil to generate electricity for power to move a train.

Pre-Visit Activity 2

Student Job Application Activity

APPLICATION FOR { EMPLOYMENT AS PROMOTION TO }

1. NAME IN FULL _____ AGE _____ YEARS
2. DATE OF BIRTH _____ PLACE OF BIRTH _____ 3. NAME OF WIFE, IF LIVING _____
(IF UNMARRIED, SO STATE) _____ RESIDENCE _____
(CITY, STREET AND NUMBER)
- NAME OF FATHER AND MOTHER, IF LIVING _____ RESIDENCE _____
(CITY, STREET AND NUMBER)
4. IF UNMARRIED AND PARENTS ARE NOT LIVING, NAME AND ADDRESS OF NEAREST RELATIVE _____

5. NAME AND ADDRESS OF ANY PERSONS DEPENDENT ON YOU FOR SUPPORT, OR TO WHOSE SUPPORT YOU ARE CONTRIBUTING _____

6. HAVE YOU ANY RELATIVES IN SERVICE OF D., L. & W. R. R.? IF SO, GIVE NAMES, RELATIONSHIP AND OCCUPATION _____

8. GIVE RECORD OF YOUR SERVICES FOR LAST FIVE YEARS, GIVING EACH YEAR IN REGULAR ORDER DOWN TO DATE. STATE WHAT RAILROAD EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE, IF ANY, GIVING NAMES OF ROADS, IN WHAT CAPACITY EMPLOYED AND LENGTH OF SERVICE ON EACH ROAD. IF YOU HAVE NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN EMPLOYED BY A RAILROAD COMPANY, STATE BY WHOM, WHEN, WHERE AND HOW EMPLOYED.

NAME OF RAILROAD OR OTHER EMPLOYER	TOWN OR CITY AT WHICH EMPLOYED	NAME OF STATE	NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER OR EMPLOYING OFFICER	WHAT WAS YOUR OCCUPATION	DATE YOU ENTERED THEIR SERVICE	DATE YOU LEFT THEIR SERVICE

9. GIVE AS REFERENCES THREE RESPONSIBLE PERSONS (OTHER THAN THOSE NAMED ABOVE) WHO WILL CERTIFY TO YOUR GOOD CHARACTER.

NAME	OCCUPATION	ADDRESS

10. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN INJURED? IF SO, WHEN AND AT WHAT PLACE? _____

How Did It Occur? _____ EXTENT OF INJURIES _____
11. DO YOU USE INTOXICATING LIQUORS? _____ IF SO, TO WHAT EXTENT? _____
12. IF EMPLOYED AT PRESENT, BY WHOM? _____
No. _____ STREET _____ TOWN OR CITY _____ STATE OF _____
IN WHAT CAPACITY ARE YOU EMPLOYED? _____ 13. IF NOT EMPLOYED AT PRESENT, WHY DID YOU LEAVE YOUR LAST PLACE? _____
14. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN THE EMPLOY OF THE D., L. & W. RAILROAD? IF SO, STATE WHEN, IN WHAT CAPACITY, ON WHAT DIVISION AND CAUSE OF LEAVING _____

15. HAVE YOU EVER MADE APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT AND BEEN SUBJECTED TO A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION? IS SO, WHEN, WHERE AND BY WHOM WAS THE EXAMINATION MADE? _____

 WERE YOU ACCEPTED OR REJECTED? _____
16. DO YOU BELONG TO ANY LABOR ORGANIZATIONS? _____

17. MY HEARING IS _____ AND EYESIGHT _____ AND I _____ TO DISTINGUISH COLORS.


ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED BY APPLICANT FOR PROMOTION

18. DATE OF ENTERING THIS COMPANY'S SERVICE _____ 19. PRESENT POSITION _____
20. WHAT PREVIOUS EXAMINATIONS HAVE YOU BEEN SUBJECTED TO, AND WHAT WERE THE RESULTS? _____

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT FOR EMPLOYMENT OR PROMOTION _____

MY PRESENT ADDRESS IS _____

DATED AT _____ THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 19_____

 **NOTE: the answers to the foregoing must be in the handwriting of the applicant for employment or promotion and must be signed by him in the presence of the examiner.**

EDUCATIONAL TEST RECORD

[TO BE MADE BY EXAMINER]

OF _____ APPLICANT FOR _____ *

AS _____ ON _____ DIVISION

HE IS _____ A GRADUATE OF _____ HAVING TAKEN THE _____ COURSE

HE ATTENDED _____ SCHOOL _____ YEARS, STUDIED _____

_____ ADVANCING AS FOLLOWS: _____

** HEARING IS _____ EYESIGHT IS _____ AND _____ ABLE TO DISTINGUISH COLORS.

IN READING, WRITING, ARITHMETIC AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE LANGUAGE USED IN RULES HE IS _____ QUALIFIED FOR THE POSITION SOUGHT.

IN GENERAL MENTAL CHARACTERISTICS AND BEARING HE IS _____

(SIGNATURE) _____

*EMPLOYMENT OR PROMOTION

[EXAMINER]

**FOR USE OF ROADWAY DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES ONLY

_____ DEPARTMENT

_____ DIVISION

APPLICATION FOR _____

NAME _____

FOR POSITION OF _____

RECOMMENDED BY _____

DATE OF APPLICATION _____

DATE COMMENCED WORK _____

APPROVED _____

APPROVED _____ 19_____

On–Site Activity 3 Alternate

Team Technology Activity

Name: _____

Group: _____

After completing each section, have your teacher, guide or chaperone check your work. If your answers are correct you will have your train ticket punched.

Building a Railway

Read the information and watch the video to answer the questions.

1. Migratory laborers and hoboes that were hired to perform track work were called _____

2. 12 ties are needed to complete 30 feet of rail, which equals 2112 ties per mile. How many ties would it take to complete 2 miles of rail?

Use the box to show your work

3. What is the record for how many miles of track laid in one day? _____

Architecture

Read the posted information and answer the questions.

1. How much money did an engineer get for risking his life testing the safety of a new bridge? _____

2. What is the name of the world's largest reinforced concrete bridge? _____

3. How many years did it take to build this bridge?

Use the box to show your work

Generating and Using Steam

Watch the video and read the information posted. Then, number the following statements in the correct order as they occur.

_____ Once inside the cylinder, the high pressure steam expanded and pushed a piston back and forth.

_____ Burning fuel in its firebox heated water in the surrounding boiler and created steam.

_____ The back and forth movement of the piston shoved the connecting rod, which then turned the main drive wheel, propelling the locomotive.

_____ The steam was released into the steam pipe and then traveled to the cylinder.

Disasters

Watch the video clip, read the posted information and then answer the following questions.

1. What caused the train to derail?

2. Give two reasons why there were more accidents after 1860.

Operating a Steam Locomotive

Read the displays and watch the video clips to find the answers to the following questions.

1. _____ is the engineer's most delicate operation.
2. What does the engineer put on the tracks to maintain traction?

3. What is the fireman's job?

Railroad Communications

Examine the eight hobo symbols and their meanings. In the box to the right, create and label your own hobo symbol.

Lantern Signals

Check the correct answer.

What color lens means this equipment was not to be disturbed?

Blue _____ Clear _____ Amber _____ Red _____

Telegraph Messaging

Watch the video clip and decode the following telegraph message.

LET ME KW WN U CMG _____

Next, try to code this message.

When is the train coming?

Whistle Signals

Play the whistle game. Match the whistle signal with the meaning. The meanings are on the answer board to the right of the game (Stand back as you listen in order to see the board)

Put an X on the line after you play the game (try at least 3)

Preservation (On Your Own)

Explain why learning about the history and preservation of the steam locomotive is important. Write in the box to the right.

Name: _____

Group: _____

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Steamtown National Historic Site



Steamtown National Historic Site
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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA